Rice to Andhra Pradesh for special SGRY

338. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of foodgrains given as drought relief to six affected States, so far;

(b) whether Andhra Pradesh has requested for release of more rice to continue works taken up under special Sampoorna Grameena Rozgar Yojana Scheme; and

(c) if so, the decision taken on request of Andhra Pradesh Government for providing a relief of Rs. 174 crore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) 30.90 lakh MTs. of foodgrains have so far been allocated to 14 drought affected States for relief employment.

(b) 6.15 lakh MTs. of foodgrains have so far been allocated to Andhra Pradesh against 25 lakh MTs. demanded by the State Government.

(c) In addition to release of Central share of Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for 2002-03 amounting to Rs. 163.77 crore, assistance of Rs. 13.72 crore from National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) has so far been released to the State for the current drought.

Recommendations of GoM to fight drought

339. SHRI AIMADUDDIN AHMAD KHAN (DURRU):
DR. AKHILESH DAS:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a high level Group of Ministers (GoM) was set up to fight the drought and to create conditions for meeting any future droughts;

(b) if so, the recommendations made by the GoM; and

(c) the steps taken to implement the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) A Task Force on drought